All Families Want to Fall in Love & We're Here to Help

Ever heard the saying, "It doesn't matter if it's a boy or a girl, as long as it's healthy?" It seems that all parents want to give their baby the healthiest start in life. Breastfeeding promotes strong immune systems and protects against illness and infection. It guards against childhood obesity and diabetes. Breastfeeding forms a unique mother-baby bond. Nature teaches us that skin-to-skin contact, keeping babies close, feeding babies when they are hungry, and having a good latch are important factors in establishing successful breastfeeding. Having a supportive partner, or champion, and consistent messaging from healthcare providers also helps.

August is Breastfeeding Awareness Month in Michigan. In order to promote early	
breastfeeding success and breastfeeding outcomes, the Michigan Breastfeeding Networ	k has
announced a statewide initiative including hospitals, WIC agencies, the Department of H	lealth
and Human Services, community stakeholders, coalitions, and	to
provide continuity of care for mothers and babies. According to	_,
International Board Certified Lactation Consultant, this collaboration could lead to highe	∍r
breastfeeding initiation and duration rates, healthier babies, and closer families.	

According to Governor Snyder, in his Breastfeeding Awareness Month Proclamation, Michigan is committed to reducing infant mortality and increasing health of mothers and babies and delaying early introduction of food sources other than breastmilk to promote successful establishment and maintenance of breastmilk production.

Activities throughout the state are planned to draw attention to the importance of breastfeeding for the health and well-being of mothers and children.